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CLASSIFIED MESSAGE SPECIAL CENTER CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY		DATE 19 NOVEMBER 1961	
TO: WHITE HOUSE		OPERATIONAL ROUTING PATTON	
FROM: CIA/OCI		DIVISION OCI	
50X1			
TYPE IN CAPITAL LETTERS. DOUBLE SPACED			
<p>ATTENTION: MR. BROMLEY SMITH</p> <p>SITUATION REPORT ON THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.</p> <p>(NOTE: INFORMATION AS AVAILABLE TO THE OFFICE OF CURRENT INTELLIGENCE, CIA AT 1230, EST, 19 NOVEMBER)</p> <p>1. IN A SPEECH JUST COMPLETED THE PRESIDENT BALAGUER ANNOUNCED THAT HECTOR AND ARISMENDI WOULD LEAVE WITHIN A FEW HOURS AND THAT HE WAS ASSUMING SUPREME COMMAND OF THE ARMED FORCES.</p> <p>2. HE RECEIVED IMPORTANT DISPATCHES A DECISIVE FACTOR IN THE APPARENT SUCCESS OF CONTROL DOMINICAN AIR FORCE ISSUED A STATEMENT EARLY THIS MORNING DECLARING ITS SUPPORT FOR BALAGUER AND DEMANDING THE OUSTER OF HECTOR AND ARISMENDI TRUJILLO. THE AIR FORCE, WHICH HAS ITS OWN LARGE GROUND UNITS, IS THE ONLY ARM OF THE DOMINICAN ARMED FORCES WITH AN EFFECTIVE MOBILE FIGHTING CAPACITY. ITS OFFICERS ARE SEVERAL CUTS ABOVE THOSE IN THE ARMY, AND YESTERDAY A NUMBER OF IN- FLUENTIAL OFFICERS PRIVATELY INDICATED THEIR TO A US OFFICER THEIR SUPPORT FOR BALAGUER. THE NOMINAL HEAD OF THE AIR FORCE WAS, HOW- EVER, IN A BELLICOSE AND INTRANSIGENT MOOD YESTERDAY AND HAS NO GREAT REGARD FOR BALAGUER. IT IS DIFFICULT TO DETERMINE HOW MUCH OF A FACTOR THE THREAT OF US DEMONSTRATIONS WAS IN THE DECISION TO ISSUE THE</p>			
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TO:		ORIGINATING OFFICER			
FROM:		DIVISION		EXTENSION	
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<p>AIR FORCE DECLARATION. THE NAVY HAS FOLLOWED THE AIR FORCE WITH A DECLARATION OF SUPPORTING BALAGUER.</p> <p>3. PRESIDENT BALAGUER ISSUED A DECREE ESTABLISHING A STATE OF NATIONAL EMERGENCY EARLY TODAY WHICH WAS ^{PROBABLY} ALSO STRENGTHENED HIS HAND.</p> <p>4. HECTOR AND ARISMENDI TRUJILLO, APPARENTLY TAKEN ABACK ^{BY} THE FIRMNESS OF THE US POSITION AND POSSIBLY BY AN INABILITY TO LINE UP SUFFICIENT SUPPORT WITHIN THE MILITARY, TOLD BALAGUER LATE LAST NIGHT THAT THEY "HAD NO THOUGHT" OF A COUP. BALAGUER, SKEPTICAL, "CHUCKLED" WHEN HE TOLD US CONSUL GENERAL HILL OF THIS. AS LONG AS THE AIR FORCE REMAINS HOSTILE TO THEM, WE DOUBT THAT HECTOR AND ARISMENDI WOULD BE ABLE TO EXECUTE A SUCCESSFUL COUP. WE DON'T NOW KNOW WHETHER THEY HAVE GIVEN UP OR ARE STILL TRYING TO LINE UP SUPPORT. WE ARE STILL WAITING TO SEE THEIR ACTUAL DEPARTURE.</p> <p>5. RAMFIS TRUJILLO, WHO HAS INDEED WASHED HIS HANDS OF THE AFFAIR, WAS LAST REPORTED ENROUTE TO EUROPE.</p> <p>6. THE TWO LEADING OPPOSITION GROUPS OFFERED THEIR SUPPORT TO BALAGUER YESTERDAY.</p> <p>7. THE STRIKE SITUATION WHICH PARALYZED CIUDAD TRUJILLO LATE LAST WEEK APPEARS TO HAVE EASED. DOMINICAN CITIZENS IN THE CAPITAL ARE REPORTED BY US PRESS REPRESENTATIVES TO HAVE DEMONSTRATED "JOYFULLY AT THE SIGHT OF US WARSHIPS OFF THE COAST EARLY IN THE DAY, IN</p>					
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APPARENT RECOGNITION OF US SUPPORT AGAINST ANY RESTORATION OF
DICTATORIAL GOVERNMENT. THE RADIO STATION OWNED BY GENERAL ARISMENDI
TRUJILLO HAS PETULANTLY COMPLAINED ABOUT US INTERFERENCE IN DOMINICAN
DEVELOPMENTS.

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